



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LAURIE, MO., MAN INDICTED ON FIREARM VIOLATIONS

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that today a Laurie, Mo., man was indicted by a federal grand jury today for illegal possession of two firearms, one of which had been stolen.

Manuel Earl Gatewood, 34, of Laurie, was charged in a two-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Jefferson City.

Count One of the federal indictment alleges that **Gatewood** was a felon in possession of two firearms. The indictment alleges that he illegally possessed a Arms Corp. 12-gauge shotgun and a Mossberg 12-gauge shotgun on March 6, 2004, in Camden County, Mo. Under federal statutes, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Gatewood** has a 2002 criminal felony conviction for forgery.

Count Two of the federal indictment alleges that **Gatewood** was in possession of a stolen firearm on March 6, 2004. The indictment alleges that the Arms Corp. shotgun had been stolen.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the indictment are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jim Lynn. It was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Missouri State Highway Patrol, the Camdenton, Mo., Police Department, the Camden County, Mo., Sheriff's Department, the Osage Beach, Mo., Police Department and the Laurie, Mo., Police Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

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